A B S T R A C T

The present invention discloses a system and method for back-up
and usage of secure copies of smart card data objects,
providing a virtual smart card (VSC) having the same defined

5   logical file structure and the same content of data objects as
its assigned real smart card, a virtual smart control program
handling the creation as well the read/write process of the
VSC, a communication component allowing communication between
the virtual smart card and its assigned real smart card, and

10   preferably a smart card manager graphical user interface
component allowing different actions with respect to data
objects to be securely backed-up on the virtual or the real
smart card via the communication component. The VSC is a
software implemented version of a real smart card providing the

15   equivalent functionality of a real smart card. The VSC is
created and used by a VSC control program handling the
creation, the security and the read/write process of the VSC.
The VSC having a logical file structure comprising a public
area, a private area, a secure key area, password area, and an

20   unique identifier area. The data objects contained in the
public area having no access restrictions, data objects placed
into the private area are encrypted and can be accessed by
using a password, and the data objects placed into secret key
area are encrypted and only accessible by the VSC control

25   program. Each VSC may be addressed by unique identifier (ID).
All data objects can be stored and retrieved on/from the

virtual smart card's public and private area via the virtual

smart card control program using the communication component.

The smart card manager graphical user interface component

allows different tasks to create and to use VSCs and handles

5   different tasks required for real smart cards and VSCs to

handle data objects, e.g. importing/exporting, copying/pasting

data objects. An essential advantage of this invention is that

backed-up smart card data objects in the VSC allows the user to

continue

10   working with the most of the applications if the real smart

card

lost or damaged.(Fig. 2)